

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 09974 01 OF 02 141848Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----141851Z 066423 /41

P 141840Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9053
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 09974

EXDIS

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, UR, GW, US, FR
SUBJECT: SOVIET OFFICIAL COMPLAINS ABOUT US STRESS ON
HUMAN RIGHTS

SUMMARY: A SOVIET OFFICIAL HERE HAS SAID THAT CONTINUED
US PURSUIT OF HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, ESPECIALLY AT
BELGRADE, WOULD JEOPARDIZE DETENTE. HE ALSO EXPRESSED
CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE US CAMPAIGN ON SOVIET
INTERNAL AFFAIRS. END SUMMARY.

1. A COUNSELOR AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY HERE, MAXIMYTSCHW,
CALLED TODAY, AT HIS OWN REQUEST, ON THE US POLITICAL
COUNSELOR FOR THE OBVIOUS PURPOSE OF EXPRESSING HIS
"CONCERN" ABOUT THE STRESS THAT THE US WAS PLACING ON
HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, ESPECIALLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE
BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

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2. MAXIMYTSCHW SAID THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN WAS
CAUSING MANY PROBLEMS FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND THAT IT
JEOPARDIZED DETENTE. HE SAID DETENTE WAS INDIVISIBLE
AND THAT IT COULD NOT BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE KIND OF
OFFENSIVE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN WHICH THE US WAS NOW
ENGAGED. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT THE KIND OF CAMPAIGN

THAT THE US WAS WAGING AMOUNTED TO INTERFERENCE IN SOVIET INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE DWELT PARTICULARLY ON THE UPCOMING BELGRADE CONFERENCE, OBSERVING THAT THIS CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT LEAD TO A CONFRONTATION BUT SHOULD BE PART OF A CONTINUING PROCESS FOR ASSURING STABILITY AND SECURITY.

3. THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR SAID THAT WHAT WE WERE DEALING WITH AT BELGRADE WAS NOT REALLY INTERNAL SINCE WE WERE DISCUSSING COMPLIANCE WITH AN INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT. HE ALSO RECALLED THAT, WHEN FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD VISITED MOSCOW LAST YEAR, HE HAD BEEN REPRIMANDED BY HIS SOVIET HOSTS FOR HAVING SUGGESTED THAT DETENTE SHOULD MEAN THE CESSATION OF IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE, AND IN THAT CONNECTION RECALLED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD SUPPORTED DISSIDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES FAR MORE THAN THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

4. MAXIMYTSCHEW SAID THAT A DISTINCTION HAD TO BE MADE BETWEEN IDEOLOGICAL "STRUGGLE" AND IDEOLOGICAL "WAR." HE SAID THE FORMER WAS COMPATIBLE WITH DETENTE, BUT THE LATTER COULD NOT BE. HE THEN BEGAN EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE US CAMPAIGN ON THE SOVIET INTERNAL SITUATION. HE DESCRIBED THAT INTERNAL SITUATION AS "VERY COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT." HE SAID TEN YEARS AGO IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR SAKHAROV TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCES WITH WESTERN NEWSMEN OR FOR OTHER DISSIDENTS TO HAVE CONTACTS WITH THE WEST. HE WARNED THAT IN THE SOVIET UNION THERE WERE ALSO "HAWKS."

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5. WARMING TO HIS SUBJECT, MAXIMYTSCHEW SAID IT COULD HAVE BEEN UNDERSTOOD IF A US PRESIDENT HAD MET WITH SOLZHENYTSIN. HE SAID THAT SOLZHENYTSIN HAD "FACIST IDEAS" BUT WAS AT LEAST A GREAT WRITER. BUKOVSKY, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS A NOTHING AND COULD ONLY BE COMPARED TO SUCH WESTERN TERRORISTS AS ANDREAS BAADER. HE SAID THAT CONTACTS OF THAT SORT CREATED GREAT INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES FOR THE SOVIET UNION.

6. THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR SAID THAT THE US CAMPAIGN WAS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION NOR AGAINST ANY OTHER NATION, BUT EXPRESSED TRADITIONAL AMERICAN IDEALS.

7. ASKED ABOUT FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S CURRENT VISIT TO MOSCOW, MAXIMYTSCHEW SAID THAT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE WOULD ALSO BE DISCUSSED DURING THAT VISIT. HE SAID THE SOVIET UNION WOULD ALSO EXPLAIN TO GENSCHER

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-----141852Z 066406 /41

P 141840Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9054
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 09974

EXDIS

THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT HAVING BELGRADE TURN INTO A
CONFRONTATION.

8. MAXIMYTSCHW THEN OBSERVED THAT THE SOVIET UNION
NOW FELT ON THE DEFENSIVE REGARDING THE HUMAN RIGHTS
CAMPAIGN. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOVIET UNION
COULD NOT CONTINUE TO REMAIN ON THE IDEOLOGICAL DEFEN-
SIVE BUT WOULD HAVE TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE SOON. HE
IMPLIED THAT THIS COULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR
DETENTE. HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE US
INSTALLATION OF THE NEW MARK A-12 WARHEADS, TO WHICH THE
POLITICAL COUNSELOR REPLIED THAT THE RAPID TECHNOLOGICAL
PROGRESS ON BOTH SIDES SHOULD MAKE US ALL RENEW OUR
EFFORTS TO REACH A FURTHER SALT AGREEMENT.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MAXIMYTSCHW TWICE SAID THAT HE WAS
SPEAKING "PERSONALLY," WE ASSUME HE HAD BEEN SENT TO
DELIVER THIS MESSAGE AND THAT THE SOVIETS ARE GIVING A
SIMILAR MESSAGE TO GENSCHER (AS WELL AS OTHER WESTERN
OFFICIALS). PRESUMABLY, THE SOVIETS MAY HOPE THAT
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GERMAN INTERESTS IN FURTHER EMIGRATION CAN PERSUADE THE
FRG TO TRY TO INFLUENCE US POLICIES. OTHER SOVIET
OFFICIALS HERE HAVE BEGUN TO PASS OUT A SIMILAR LINE:
A POLITICAL JOURNALIST HAS TOLD US THAT A SOVIET EMBASSY
OFFICIAL LAST NIGHT HAD TOLD HIM THE US ADMINISTRATION WAS
"DANGEROUS" FOR THE SOVIET UNION BECAUSE IT HAD SEIZED
THE POLITICAL INITIATIVE. THE SOVIET OFFICIAL HAD
OBSERVED THAT THIS HAD "COMPLICATED RELATIONS."
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, UR, GE, US, FR, CSCE
To: STATE BELGRADE
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